

## DON'T NEED THEM

Former President Taft Would Abolish All Postmasters.

U. S. Could Save \$4,000,000 by Doing So, He Says.

Chicago, Dec. 24.—William H. Taft is in the field with a proposal to abolish all postmasters. As a class, the former president contends, they are inefficient, uneconomic. He asserts the general government could save \$4,000,000 annually to start with if his program were adopted.

Mr. Taft might have added, as a group of expert politicians who heard his speech at Orchestra hall said—and among them were two national committee men—that postmasters are political liabilities after their appointment. Then the politicians talked about the Winnetka case and the trouble it had started for President Wilson.

"Why devil a president with trying to pick an honest, efficient and economical postmaster," said one of the speakers, "explained the former president, and later he apologized for the vigor and visible energy with which he had approached this phase of his subject."

Mr. Taft wants the postoffice department conducted on a single basis of efficiency, he told 2,000 persons who listened to the second of his series of lectures, which are financed by the Ryder foundation.

"I want the postoffice department managed by the United States as any big going business is managed privately," he said. "The deputy postmaster, running under civil service, could and should be the executive and we would have an end of this interminable political and actual waste."

Mr. Taft also suggested a bureau at Washington which shall deal with the railroad as to transportation of government officials.

"The government last year," Mr. Taft declared, "paid out \$12,000,000 for railroad transportation. Pullman car fares, and tips. I believe that this total could be reduced to \$3,000,000 in the first year. I think the inter-state commerce commission could interpose no obstacle to any effective plan whereby the federal government could get at least commutators' rates."

## THEY KNEW THE HOW

Children Along Washington Road Line Up to Receive Christmas Presents From the President's Auto.

Washington, Dec. 24.—There was the shrill bark of an automobile horn. Children at play today in front of their homes along Washington road,

near the Washington Country club paused in their games. Other children in the houses came running out. They knew the horn well.

And as fifty little tots, ranging from 3 years to 12, ran delightedly out to the curb, a big White House limousine, "loaded to the guards" with toys of all kinds and candy and fruit of every description whirled up. Packages were handed to each child and L. N. Hoover, White House head usher, added, "Merry Christmas to all."

It was the president's remembrance to some of his little friends.

The children are those who always run out and greet the president when he is on his way to the Washington Country club.

## HE GOT THREE OF THEM

W. H. Wasson, Commissioner of Finance Has Shiner Plus to Throw at the Birds.

Not long ago W. H. Wasson, city commissioner, became a Shriner. The people in his department at the city hall thought the proper thing to buy him for Christmas would be a Shriner's pin. They bought it and presented it to him yesterday afternoon. Last night he went home and proudly displayed the pin. His daughter took one look at it and gasped.

"What's the matter?" asked Mr. Wasson.

"Why, father," she replied, "we bought you one, too."

Then, to bring the thing to a climax, when Mr. Wasson opened his mail this morning, out rolled another Shriner's pin, sent by some Masonic friend.

## AT HOT SPRINGS, VA.

All the President's Christmas Presents Are Taken In Charge by His Wife Until Tonight.

Hot Springs, Va., Dec. 24.—All Christmas presents addressed to President Wilson here passed today into the safekeeping of his wife, to be withheld by her until tonight when the big accumulation of packages will be opened. The packages addressed to Mrs. Wilson were taken in charge by the president.

Among the president's gifts are two from his grandchildren. Whether the president and his wife will participate in the Christmas celebration to be held tonight in the hotel was the chief topic discussed today in Hot Springs. They have been invited, but have neither accepted nor declined.

British Deny Red Cross Report. Washington, Dec. 24.—The British embassy today officially denied the report that Great Britain had declined to permit the shipment of American Red Cross supplies to Europe.

## DOES WIFE FLY?

If She Does Upside Down She's Right in Swim.

Looping the Loop the Most Fashionable Thing Now.

New York, Dec. 24.—Does your wife fly?

If so, she's in style—right up to the minute. If she flies upside down, she's ultra fashionable, because that means she can loop the loop. But if she hasn't an aeroplane she's hopelessly lost. Because aeroplane flying for women has come to be quite the thing. To provide better tutoring facilities for women who want to learn to fly, the Misses Katherine and Marjorie Stinson, of Chicago, will open an aviation school at San Antonio in the spring. It was announced today. Miss Katherine, who is only 19 years old, and who still wears her hair down her back, already has made a record as an air woman.

She was the first woman in the world to loop the loop and to fly upside down. And she is still the only woman who performs these feats. She has looped more than 250 times. Miss Marjorie, who is two years her sister's junior, also is a daring and skillful flyer.

The fashions on dress for air women probably will be set by the Baroness de Backendorff, who announced at the Waldorf Astoria that she has decided to "take up" aviation. She has adopted the new diversion to occupy her mind while she is wondering what has been the fate of her husband, who a year ago joined his regiment in Russia.

The baroness has positive ideas about costumes for air women, she stated yesterday. She has designed several, which are now in the hands of dressmakers.

## BASKET TO EVERY ONE

The Topeka Street Railway Company Remembers Its Employees in Its Customary Manner.

The Topeka Street Railway company is giving its employees a royal good time Christmas day and night. Today every motorman, conductor and car barn man was presented with a Christmas basket and each one was given the choice between ham and turkey. Most of the car men took ham.

The wives of the married men are given a silver piece. This is a custom that has been carried out for years and now many of the women have nice sets of silverware, as the designs

are all the same. The single men have been given an order for \$1.50 in trade at a local store. The kids get candy.

Christmas night a vaudeville show will be presented in the club room. Local talent of the best obtainable are going to fill the program. The show will start at 8:15 o'clock. At midnight a supper will be served to the night shift men.

## ACTOR FOLK FALL OUT

Chella M. Brandon Sues Her Husband "Whit" Brandon for Divorce, at Kansas City.

Divorce proceedings have been brought against W. Whitney Brandon, better known as "Whit" Brandon, actor, by his wife, Chella M. Brandon. The suit was filed in the district court of Jackson county, Missouri, at Kansas City. Hugh Larimer, under sheriff, presented Brandon with a Christmas present today in the form of a subpoena.

Brandon was married at Soeur d'Alene, Idaho, in 1913. He is a Topeka man. Both he and his wife have been on the stage for several years. They were in a musical comedy company which played several weeks at the Novelty last summer. Brandon is living at 784 Tyler street.

The petition alleges that the actor knocked down his wife with his fist last August. Other indignities of a similar nature are charged.

## ALL ARE DETERMINED

British Dominions Are With England Equally Firm in Resolve That War's End Will Be Decisive.

New York, Dec. 24.—Canada and the other British dominions are as firmly resolved as is the mother country that the European war shall not be terminated by any inconclusive peace, declared Sir Robert Laird Borden, the prime minister of the Canadian government, in an address tonight at the 19th annual dinner of the New England society in New York.

It was the first public address delivered by Sir Robert in the United States since the beginning of the war, and it follows closely upon his visit to England and France for official conference when the third section of a west-bound Lackawanna passenger train plowed into the second section at Slatersford, Pa.

Fireman Bray, who was reported killed in the railroad wreck here this morning, is living. It was thought for some time he had succumbed but today he was found in his hospital bed. He is not expected to live out the day.

## DEATHS AND FUNERALS.

Lowren Snyder, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Snyder, died Friday morning at 5 o'clock at the home of his parents, 1214 E. 10th street. The funeral will be held at 2:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon at the residence. Interment in Topeka cemetery.

The funeral of Carl Schramm will be held at 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon at the home, 215 Locust street. Mr. Schramm lived in Topeka for 34 years and was formerly an employee of the Santa Fe. He is survived by his wife and children, Fred Schramm; Mrs. Frank Cramer, of Topeka; Herman Schramm and Mrs. L. Roller of Kansas City, Mo.

Miss Agnes Saxe, formerly of Topeka died in Bethel hospital, Colorado Springs. She was a sister of the late Mrs. J. A. Staveley, wife of a former pastor of the Kansas Avenue Methodist church. The funeral will be held at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon at the Kansas Avenue Methodist church. Interment in Rochester cemetery. Dr. Staveley, now of Parsons, Kan., is here for the funeral.

Cassola Pears, age 4, daughter of Mrs. Rose Pears, died Thursday at the home of her mother, 219 Han, w. street. The funeral will be held at 3:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon at Penwell's chapel. Interment in Topeka cemetery.

The funeral of Otto Anderson will be held at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon at Penwell's chapel. Interment in Topeka cemetery.

The Topeka postoffice will be open tomorrow until noon and one delivery of regular mail will be made during the morning. However, parcel post deliveries will be made all day and any Christmas packages reaching town tonight or tomorrow will be delivered.

## LOCAL MENTION.

Late this afternoon Frank Newman, arrested recently at Denver on a charge of wife desertion in Shawnee county and found over in the court of Topeka this morning, gave bond for the support of his wife and was released by county officials. Newman also paid the costs in his case.

See Mr. and Mrs. S. E. McFarland if you are needing glasses. 805 Kansas Ave.—Adv.

Miss Faith Young is ill of grip at her home at 506 Topeka avenue.

Prize Masquerade Ball at Kellam hall, Monday, Dec. 27.—Adv.

Mirror Work. Coe's, 828 Kansas Ave.—Adv.

Painless dental work at moderate prices at the Hite Dental Parlor, 808 Kansas Ave. Phone 714.—Adv.

Dr. Charles Lyngar, dentist, 809 Kansas Ave. Phone 714.—Adv.

Suits and overcoats dry cleaned 75c. Topeka Laundry Co. Phone 3623.—Adv.

For a popular priced suit or overcoat, made to measure, see Olof Ekberg, 708 Kansas Ave. 2nd floor.—Adv.

Dr. J. W. Howard, Dentist, 809 Kansas Ave. Phone 714.—Adv.

H. H. Raymond, Foot Specialist, Painless. 524 Madison. Phone 3960.—Adv.

Glass and glazing call 949. J. E. Jones Paint Co.—Adv.

Xmas Framing. Coe's, 828 Kansas Ave.—Adv.

Glass, Glazing and Paint. Miller & Gillespie, 823 K. A. Phone 955.—Adv.

## JUDGE M'CONNELL DIES

He Served as Chief Justice of Montana by Appointment of President Grover Cleveland.

Judge Newton Whitfield McConnell, formerly of Tennessee, age 80, father of Mrs. John T. Chaney, died today at the home of his daughter. The body will be taken to Helena, Mont., where it will be laid beside that of his wife, who died several years ago.

Mr. McConnell was a thirty-second degree Mason and was past grand master for Tennessee of the Masonic order. He was formerly first district judge in Tennessee. He was chief justice of Montana when that district was a territory, having been appointed by former President Grover Cleveland.

Funeral arrangements will be made later.

## WRECK IN KANSAS

(Continued from Page One.)

through the last Pullman before it was brought to a standstill. Fireman Bray remained at his post and lost his life.

One of the injured were passengers on the Frisco train.

Reports from Muskogee assert that the assistant chief operator, chief surgeon and chief of the medical staff, G. G. left Muskogee on a special train for the wreck.

## Train Was Running Late.

The Frisco train, which left at 6:20 o'clock this morning but was running late, the M. O. & K. accommodation train, which uses the Frisco tracks between Topeka and Baxter Springs, Kan., left Joplin at 7:35 o'clock and was running on time when it overtook the Frisco train at the station here.

Fireman Bray, who was reported killed in the railroad wreck here this morning, is living. It was thought for some time he had succumbed but today he was found in his hospital bed. He is not expected to live out the day.

## Two Killed in Pennsylvania.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 24.—Two persons were killed, five injured and hundreds narrowly escaped injury early today when the third section of a west-bound Lackawanna passenger train plowed into the second section at Slatersford, Pa.

The train had caused the train to be divided into three sections. Engineer Bunnell of the second section said he had placed warning torpedoes on the track.

## HEART AND BEAUTY PROBLEMS

Dear Mrs. Thompson: (1) Is it wrong for a girl of fourteen to dance once in awhile?

(2) What would be a nice Christmas present for a schoolmate?

(3) Do you know of any good face bleach?

(4) Is it right for boys to become angry if you do not speak to them first?

(5) I have a dear girl friend, but sometimes she is very indifferent and becomes angry over nothing. How would you advise me to break her of this? When she is not angry she is a real true friend, but that is seldom.

(6) What is the style for junior misses in combing the hair this season?

MY OWN EYES.

(1) I don't think so.

(2) A book, a bronze paper knife or anything for a desk.

(3) Put half a pint of rich milk into a porcelain kettle and bring it to a boil. Skim carefully, and add one-quarter of an ounce of strained lemon juice. Remove from the heat and pour in one-half ounce of white brandy. Bottle when cold, and apply to the face at night with a soft cloth, letting the mixture stay on all night. Wipe over the face again in the morning after washing.

This lotion proves very beneficial to some complexions and not to others. It will do no harm to try it.

(4) It is the girl's place to speak first and if she does not do it a boy is justified in thinking that she no longer desires his acquaintance.

(5) Respect your friend's moods and when she wants to be indifferent leave her alone. Don't seek her, but let her come to you. She will probably do it.

(6) Part the hair in the middle, roll it on the sides and fasten it in the back with a ribbon or barette.

Dear Mrs. Thompson, I do not seem to be very well liked by the girls, but boys are friendly to me. I am a member of a very good club and an officer in it. For about two months I have been going with a girl who is very well liked by everyone. I called on her twice, took her to a club dance and to the theater once. About two weeks ago I made a date for a few nights ago. One day when I was going home from work a boy whom I know very well came up to me and said he understood that I was trying to go with this girl and my attentions were very distasteful to her—that she went with me merely because she did not want to hurt my feelings. Then two days after I met the boy I got a letter from the girl breaking our date. I wrote and told her what the boy had said and asked her if it were so. She answered that if she wanted to give out such information she would do it herself. Then I wrote back and asked her for another date. She did not answer my letter. Do you think it would be all right to telephone her or write another letter and ask for a date?

DISCOURAGED.

Don't write or telephone. What the boy said was probably true or the girl would not have acted as she did. Find another girl; there are a lot more. Because this girl did not like you is no reason why you should be discouraged.

Dear Mrs. Thompson: (1) Will you kindly tell me just how that reliable blood purifier is made up?

(2) I have a girl friend who lives quite a way from here. What would be a nice Christmas present for her? Understand now, she is just a friend. I am not giving my attention to her.

(3) The formula consists of a paste of sulphur and molasses, cream of tartar to the amount of a pinch being added to each teaspoonful of the mixture. The dose from time immemorial has been a teaspoonful every morning for three days; then three days omitted and another three doses, on three more consecutive days are

## KEEP THE CHANGE!

Want to give the newboys a Christmas present tomorrow?

Tomorrow has been designated as "Keep your change day" for the newboys.

When you buy a paper and hand 'em a coin tell 'em to keep the change. Let 'em know that you are one of the fellows that brave all kinds of weather to bring you the leading Kansas daily every day.

## MERGE STEEL FIRMS

Eastern Companies Will Combine to Form a \$300,000,000 Corporation.

New York, Dec. 24.—The proposed merger of Cambria Steel, The Youngstown Sheet & Tube company and two or three other steel companies is now virtually assured. J. C. Campbell, president of the Youngstown company stated here.

The stockholders of the Lackawanna Steel company, which is to be merged with the plan but Mr. Campbell said he considered that phase as good as settled. Interests chiefly concerned are the Lackawanna, the Youngstown and the Cambria. The merger will be completed not later than February 1.

Present plans, however, indicate the capitalization will be at least \$250,000,000, possibly \$300,000,000.

## DAILY WEATHER REPORT.

Furnished by the United States Weather Bureau, Topeka, Kansas, for the 24 hours ending at 7 p. m. today.

Stations.	High.	Low.	Wind.	Temp.	Humid.	Clouds.
Topoka, Kan.	44	32	Cloudy	32	75	Cloudy
St. Louis, Mo.	42	32	Cloudy	32	75	Cloudy
Chicago, Ill.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Indianapolis, Ind.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Cincinnati, O.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Cleveland, O.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
St. Paul, Minn.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Des Moines, Ia.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Omaha, Neb.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Lincoln, Neb.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Sioux Falls, S. D.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Yankton, S. D.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Wichita, Kan.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Lawrence, Kan.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Overland Park, Kan.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Wichita Falls, Tex.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Fort Worth, Tex.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Dallas, Tex.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
San Antonio, Tex.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Austin, Tex.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
San Diego, Cal.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Los Angeles, Cal.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
San Francisco, Cal.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Portland, Ore.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Seattle, Wash.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Portland, Me.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Boston, Mass.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
New York, N. Y.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Philadelphia, Pa.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Washington, D. C.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Richmond, Va.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Norfolk, Va.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
Wilmington, Del.	40	30	Cloudy	30	75	Cloudy
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